

2139.27

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
RYUSUKE NAKAGIRI, ET AL.) : Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: to be assigned) : Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: Currently herewith) :
For: LIVER FUNCTION PROTECTING)
OR IMPROVING AGENT : December 7, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to action on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 7, 8, 16, 24, 31, 38, 42, 43 and 51 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of these claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

7. (Amended) The liver function protecting or improving agent according to any of Claims 1 to 5, which is administered orally.

8. (Amended) The liver function protecting or improving agent according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the liver function is a function affected by alcohol.

16. (Amended) The food and drink according to any of Claims 9 to 11, wherein the extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae is an alcoholic extract of the residue of an aqueous medium extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae.

24. (Amended) The feed according to any of Claims 17 to 19, wherein the extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae is an alcoholic extract of the residue of an aqueous medium extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae.

31. (Amended) The additive for foods and drinks according to Claims 25 or 26, wherein the extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae is an alcoholic extract of the residue of an aqueous medium extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae.

38. (Amended) The feed additive according to claims 32 or 33, wherein the extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae is an alcoholic extract of the residue of an aqueous medium extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae.

42. (Amended) The method according to Claims 39 or 40, wherein the liver function is a function affected by alcohol.

43. (Amended) A method protecting or improving liver function in an animal, which comprises feeding the animal with the liver function protecting or improving agent according to any of Claims 1 to 5 or the feed according to any of Claims 17 to 19.

51. (Amended) The good and drink of feed according to any of Claims 45 to 49, wherein the liver function the liver function is a function affected by alcohol.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to correct their dependency and conformity with accepted U.S. practice. No new matter has been added.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

7. (Amended) The liver function protecting or improving agent according to any of Claims 1 to [6] 5, which is administered orally.

8. (Amended) The liver function protecting or improving agent according to any of claims 1 to [7] 5, wherein the liver function is a function affected by alcohol.

16. (Amended) The food and drink according to any of Claims 9 to [15] 11, wherein the extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae is an alcoholic extract of the residue of an aqueous medium extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae.

24. (Amended) The feed according to any of Claims 17 to [23] 19, wherein the extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae is an alcoholic extract of the residue of an aqueous medium extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae.

31. (Amended) The additive for foods and drinks according to [any of] Claims 25 [to 30] or 26, wherein the extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae is an alcoholic extract of the residue of an aqueous medium extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae.

38. (Amended) The feed additive according to [any of] claims 32 [to 37] or 33, wherein the extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae is an alcoholic extract of the residue of an aqueous medium extract of the plant of the family Saxifragaceae.

42. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claims 39 [to 41] or 40, wherein the liver function is a function affected by alcohol.

43. (Amended) A method protecting or improving liver function in an animal, which comprises feeding the animal with the liver function protecting or improving agent according to any of Claims 1 to [8] 5 or the feed according to any of Claims 17 to [24] 19.

51. (Amended) The good and drink of feed according to any of Claims 45 to [50] 49, wherein the liver function the liver function is a function affected by alcohol.